



3 February 2017

State of South Carolina  
Office of Regulatory Staff  
1401 Main Street, Suite 900  
Columbia, SC 29201

Public Service Commission of South Carolina  
101 Executive Center Drive  
Suite 100  
Columbia, SC 29210

Re: Docket 2017-19-E; Docket No 2013-59-E Docket No 2016-366-E; Docket No 2016-354-E and all other Case Files Regarding Wireless Utility Meters (ie., AMI, AMR, AMS, ERT, Wireless, Smart Meters, etc.)

Dear Public Service Commission of South Carolina, State of South Carolina Regulatory Staff, All Electric, Gas and Water Utility Companies, President, Agents, Officers, Employees, Contractors and Interested Parties:

We, the undersigned, are scientists and health professionals who together have co-authored many peer-reviewed studies on the health effects of radiofrequency radiation (RFR). We are aware that the Public Service Commission of South Carolina is considering a proposed smart meter opt-out fee from Duke Energy. Smart meters, along with other wireless devices, have created significant public health problems caused by the radiofrequency radiation (RFR) they produce, and awareness and reported problems continue to grow. With Duke Energy being America's largest utility provider and, consequently, having the largest potential smart meter implementation reach, it is imperative that the Public Service Commission of South Carolina be fully aware of the harm that RFR can cause and allow utility customers to opt out of smart meter installation with no penalty.

The majority of the scientific literature related to RFR stems from cell phone studies. There is strong evidence that people who use a cell phone held directly to their ear for more than ten years are at significantly increased risk of developing gliomas of the brain and acoustic neuromas of the auditory nerve. There is also evidence that the risk of developing these cancers is greater in younger than older people. The May 2016 report from the US National Toxicology Program showing that rats exposed to cell phone radiation for nine hours per day over their life-span develop gliomas of the brain and Schwannoma of the heart (the same kind of cancer as acoustic neuroma) adds proof to the conclusions from the human health studies that radiofrequency radiation increases risk of cancer.

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Citizens rely on their government agencies for protection from harm. Accordingly, we urge the Public Service Commission of South Carolina to reject any fees or tariffs associated with smart meter opt-out and allow citizens to opt out without penalty.

Thank you for your attention and consideration. What you do in this instance affects the lives of many in South Carolina and beyond.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "David O. Carpenter". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

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